

The Global Health Activities of

CDC'S

NATIONAL CENTER FOR INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL (NCIPC)

he National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) works to understand and prevent injuries and deaths caused by both intentional injuries (those resulting from violence and abuse) and unintentional injuries (those caused by falls, motor vehicle crashes, fires, and drowning). In addition, the Center coordinates research on acute care and rehabilitation of people who have been disabled by an injury.

NCIPC's injury prevention program is based on a comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach: identifying the extent of the problem and who is at risk; conducting research on causes of injury and risk factors that can be modified; designing prevention programs that address what puts people at risk for injury; and evaluating what works. NCIPC works with international partners – including WHO, PAHO, and Ministries of Health in countries around the world – sharing knowledge of what works in epidemiology, prevention, acute care, rehabilitation, information gathering and dissemination, and training.

Examples of how NCIPC contributes to CDC's global health objectives in each of five strategic areas are provided below.

PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE

During 1999 and 2000, NCIPC responded to requests for assistance in the development and evaluation of injury-related surveillance systems in South Africa, Jamaica, Kosovo, Nicaragua, the Bahamas, and Latin America. In South Africa, NCIPC staff helped the Ministry of Health develop mechanisms for identifying and collecting violence-related data, including a pilot system for monitoring fatal and non-fatal injuries. A school violence prevention program is also planned. In Kosovo, NCIPC staff helped evaluate a landmine-injury surveillance system.

NCIPC has worked with international organizations such as WHO, PAHO, the World Bank, InterAmerican Development Bank, UNESCO, UNICEF, and the Organization of American States to identify mechanisms for collecting data on fatal and non-fatal injuries, monitoring trends among injuries, and planning strategies for prevention.

PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

NCIPC is working with Vietnam's Ministry of Health to train the agency's workforce in the collection and use of injury data. NCIPC has collaborated with UNICEF and Vietnam's Ministry of Health to jointly fund the assignment of an injury prevention specialist to work on transport and occupational injury and to begin developing a national plan to deal with injury in the home, school, and community.



WORKING WITH PARTNERS TO IMPROVE GLOBAL HEALTH

DISEASE AND INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL

In the Netherlands, NCIPC staff are contributing to the publication *Guidelines for Safe Recreational-water Environments: Swimming Pools, Spas and Similar Recreational-water Environments.* In addition, staff are working with their Dutch counterparts to convene the World Congress on Drowning, including preparing a document on drowning prevention, chairing a task force on the epidemiology of drowning, and helping to design the June 2002 meeting to be held in Amsterdam.



NCIPC staff participated in a Traffic and Workplace Safety Roundtable in Vietnam, where research findings and lessons learned regarding motor vehicle injury prevention in the United States were shared as potential models for safety programs.

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND LESSONS LEARNED

NCIPC has been active in efforts to exchange accurate technical information on global injury-related health problems. For example, the Center is collaborating with WHO in the development of the first *World Report on Violence and Health*. The report focuses on violence as a public health problem and explores those aspects of violence that are most likely to be effectively addressed by the public health sector.

WHO COLLABORATING CENTERS

- ▶ WHO Collaborating Center for Injury Prevention and Control
- ▶ WHO Collaborating Center for Neurotrauma